



Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea

Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet

Berea Welcome Center Carvers Demonstrate Woodcarving Techniques at Kentucky Artisan Center

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BEREA, Ky. – On Saturday, Feb. 16, three members of the Berea Welcome Center Carvers will demonstrate woodcarving techniques from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea. Carving that day will be Jack Gann, of Berea, who specializes in animal carvings; Keith Flowers, of Richmond, who heads up the organization; and a new carver to the group, Josh Mink, of Berea, who is being mentored by Gann and David Buzzard.

Woodcarving is an ancient art found in every culture and part of the world, reflecting many carving styles such as whittling, line carving, chip carving, pierced carving, relief carving, in-the-round carving (sculpture), architectural carving and chainsaw carving. Items made for kitchen use, such as bowls and utensils, are generally made from hardwoods such as walnut, oak, maple or cherry.

Members of the Berea Welcome Center Carvers live in many communities in central Kentucky, and their activities include carving classes, carving demonstrations at schools, monthly Kentucky Artisan Center demonstrations and special events.

Members of this woodcarving group specialize in a wide variety of techniques and styles of carving. Some members focus on carving caricatures and figures in the round. Others enjoy carving animals and birds, while still others create functional works such as spoons, bowls, decorative tiles and ornaments. Members mentor each other and enjoy sharing their love of woodcarving, making their demonstrations at the Kentucky Artisan Center a mix of humor, technique and storytelling.

The Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea is located at 200 Artisan Way, just off Interstate 75 at Berea, Exit 77. The center's exhibits, shopping and travel information areas are open daily, year-round, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and the cafe is open from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Admission is free.

The center currently features works by more than 650 artisans from more than 100 counties across the Commonwealth. A special exhibit, "The Threads that Bind: Textile Works by Kentucky Artisans," is on display through Feb. 23. For information about the center's events call 859-985-5448, visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/kentucky.artisan.center, or go to the center's website at www.kentuckyartisancenter.ky.gov.

The Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea is an agency in the Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.



Photos Left to Right: Keith Flowers of the Berea Welcome Center Carvers demonstrates at the Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea; a carved mule by Jack Gann; David Buzzard shapes a figure with a chisel gouge